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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

കേരള ഗസറ്റ്
KERALA GAZETTE

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Part III

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THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

NOTIFICATION

No. DI-1/36916/2016. *8th October 2025.*

In exercise of the powers conferred by Article 225 of the Constitution of India and Section 122 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (Central Act 5 of 1908), the High Court of Kerala, after previous publication of the draft Rules in the Kerala Gazette Vol. XII, No. 49, dated 5th December, 2023 as Notification No. DI-1/36916/2016, dated 2nd December 2023, having considered the suggestions received and with the previous approval of the Government of Kerala conveyed in G.O. (Rt.) No. 3283/2025/HOME, dated 23-9-2025, hereby makes the following Rules further to amend the Rules of the High Court of Kerala, 1971, namely:—

RULES

1. *Short title and Commencement.*—(1) These rules may be called the Rules of the High Court of Kerala (Amendment), 2025.

(2) They shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of the Rules.*—In the Rules of the High Court of Kerala 1971,—

(1) In rule 239, for the figure and word 4 years, the words 'two years' shall be substituted.

(2) After rule 240, the following rule shall be inserted, namely:—

240 A: Destruction of Records which are digitised:

Notwithstanding anything contained in Rules 239, 240 and 244:

(i) The physical files of the court records, which are digitized in accordance with the Kerala Digitization of Court Record Rules 2023, may be destroyed, six months after the date of completion of the digitization of records and two years after the date of completion of the records as provided in rule 238 after ensuring due compliance of clause (h) of Rule 3 of the Kerala Digitization of Court Record Rules, 2023, by publishing three months' notice on the High Court website.

(ii) The physical files, if any, of the cases electronically filed under the Electronic Filing Rules for Courts (Kerala), 2021, shall be destroyed one year after the date of completion of records as provided in rule 238.

(iii) The original documents, if any produced in an electronically filed case under the Electronic Filing Rules for Courts (Kerala), 2021 shall be destroyed, upon;

(a) Publishing three months' notice on the High Court website regarding the proposed destruction and;

(b) Completion of two months from the date of issuing a notice to the parties who have produced such documents, in the address provided by them or in their last known address, calling upon them to collect all the original documents produced by them, and intimating them that if such record is not collected within the stipulated time, the records may be taken up for destruction.

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(iv) Court registers, books and papers described in the table in Schedule B to this chapter, may be destroyed two years after the date of completion of the digitisation of records, by publishing three months' notice on the High Court website.

Provided that this rule will not apply to original Wills, of which probate or letters of administration with the Will annexed has been granted by the Court and such other records specifically ordered by the High Court to be preserved.

(3) In schedule A, after the entry under Serial No. 8, the following serial Number and entry shall be Inserted, namely:—

"8A Vakalath"

By Order,

GOPAKUMAR, G.,
Registrar General.

Kochi-682 031.

Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the notification, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

In view of the acute shortage of space in the record rooms and the digitisation drive being carried out in the High Court, it was decided to introduce necessary amendments to the Rule of the High Court of Kerala,1971 so that the records which are digitised could be destroyed as per rules.

The notification is intended to achieve the above objective.

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